

Competition Evangelical Church Parish, Trier (GER)

project **Transformation of the former site of the Evangelical parish registers in a residential district** awarding authority **Evangelical Church Parish, Trier (GER)** team **WW+, Esch-sur-Alzette/Trier (LUX/GER), Werner Schaack Architekten, Trier (GER), ernst+partner landschaftsarchitekten, Trier (GER)** rendering **Stube 13, Zürich (CH)** gfa **9.050 m²** gv **11.050 m³** total area **5.817 m²** living quarters **60** competition phase **05/2014 - 07/2014** candidate selection process **2nd prize**

"Particularly in the centre, the residential quarter must remain unutilised and provide a space that is free, to allow a sense of individual freedom to emerge."

Hermann Henselmann

The challenge of the task at hand consists in integrating the architecture into the urban fabric. The planning of this project must take into account the context, while at the same time adding value and enhancing the quality of life. Alongside other interdisciplinary considerations from the sociological and socio-demographic arenas, we have integrated all these parameters into the urban planning and architectonic concept of the expansion of the residential quarter of the former evangelical church parish of Trier.

Urban planning concept

Both the Christuskirche land and the municipal land are located on what is – from an urban planning point of view – a striking site positioned between the city's periphery and undifferentiated urban expansion structures and an extensive open space. Despite the strong east/west topography of the land, our design places an urban planning emphasis with an integrated concept for both plots of land on the southern city entrance of Trier.

Within the precinct, identification and reference points as well as urban features from the neighbouring built-up structures are incorporated in order to create references and to generate a harmonious integration in the urban space. An upgrade of the surrounding public space as well as a sustainable networking of the closer surroundings are positive effects of the connection to existing reference perimeters of the existing buildings. Through developing and reinforcing the greater connecting axis between town and nature, the abutment onto valuable green space is felt in every living aspect in the new residential precinct. With the expansion of the already existing public centre, which will retain the former church tower of the Christuskirche as a distinguishing landmark, the new quarter emanates in all directions and with its openness enters into a dialogue with the surrounding area.

In addition to the clearly set out structures of the surrounding buildings, due among others to the great difference in height between Trevererstraße and Bolzplatz to the west, the bodies of the individual buildings align themselves with three topographical levels of the precinct and an attractive public as well as private outdoor area. The overall structure dissolves into individual buildings, which seemingly merge into one another, its cubature adapting itself to the surrounding formations in linear and solitary building structures. The resulting in-between spaces mark the entrances and visual connections to the public 'Kirchplatz', which due to its distinctive and inviting character becomes the quarter's central meeting point and at the same time represents an important communication area, via which all other areas can be accessed. The structure, which is three storeys in parts, forms a noticeable edge towards Trevererstraße.



infrastructure



old middle - new middle



open spaces



usage



section north-south



Utilisation concept

The design is a dense residential concept aiming to merge and incorporate all socio-demographic groups. The planning focus is on target group orientation with the creation of a diverse residential offer and the fostering of a positive residential identity. The interests of long-established residents from neighbouring properties are to be safeguarded, while new residents are to be canvassed. This will lead to a social networking between the planned quarter and the adjacent residential structures. For both new and old residents, identifying with the residential quarter is the primary objective. The result is a diverse housing supply, to a large extent fully accessible, ranging from maisonette apartments on the ground floor onto Bolzplatz to apartments of different sizes to penthouse residences with staggered floors. The design of two-,

three- and four-apartment floors allows for a flexible distribution of residential sizes from 46 – 65m², 65 – 85m² and 85 – 120m².

The building located on municipal land, directly accessible from the Kirchplatz, could house public structures such as a meeting centre, a youth club or a Kindergarten to replace the former municipal centre, whereas the building on Flinsbachstraße will be home to exclusively subsidised housing, making up 25% of the total planning area.



section west-east



Access concept

Our planning design incorporates the current access plan of the existing buildings. Motorised access is achieved via Trevererstraße and the connecting Flinsbachstraße. The end of this road contains 13 above-ground parking spaces as well as an access driveway to an underground car park with a further 60 parking spaces. Access to the municipal land is achieved via Stefan-George-Straße.

The entrances to the residential quarter are marked by generous gaps within the building composition and are accessed by a continuous pathway, which also follows the surrounding structures and incorporates the existing paths. Despite its steeply sloping site, the quarter features fully accessible thoroughfares. Wide and narrow sections within the path system create interesting space sequences throughout the residential quarter. The influence on the internal communication as well as the interaction with neighbouring quarters is a positive one. The residential storeys are accessed via central access areas with elevators, which can in each case be reached via footpath from the central area, allowing for short paths within the precinct. The buildings bordering on the Kirchplatz enjoy direct access to the underground car park via their stairwells.

Open space concept

The outdoor spaces, which consist mainly of lawn, trees and water-bound surfaces, offer nuanced and diverse spatial qualities alongside the right balance between public, shared and private surfaces. In this, a desire for privacy and a desire for communication and interaction are not mutually exclusive. The existing residential buildings along Trevererstraße are known for their frontal green areas. This principle is continued in the planned development, thus mediating between the existing structures and the nearby urban area. In addition, the high number of public and private green spaces results, both spatially and visually, in the planning area linking up with the green corridor of the nearby Mattheiser pond.